

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05

SAJ-01 EUR-12 /081 W

----- 081217

O R 180550Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1978

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 0768

US MISSION GENEVA 1447

USDEL JEC PARIS

UNCLAS SAIGON 0660

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, VS, SZ

SUBJECT: MFA STATEMENT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF "PRG" OFFICE IN  
GENEVA

REF: STATE 11516

1. MFA SPOKESMAN JANUARY 16 ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON  
THIS SUBJECT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: I - THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM  
WAS INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF THIS MATTER THAT IT HAD TAKEN UP  
WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT IN NEW YORK AND THE SWISS  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN BERN IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS.

3. AT THE REQUEST OF THE U.N. SECRETARIAT, THE SWISS GOVERN-  
MENT HAS AUTHORIZED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NLF LIAISON OFFICE  
PURELY FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS. BUT THIS, THE SWISS GOVERN-  
MENT AFFIRMED, DID NOT MEAN IT RECOGNIZED THE SELF-PROCLAIMED  
"NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF SOUTH VIET-NAM" UNDER WHATEVER  
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FORM.

4. THE SWISS GOVERNMENT HAD ALSO AFFIRMED THAT THIS OFFICE WAS OF NO LEGAL NATURE AND THE OFFICE'S PERSONNEL ABSOLUTELY ENJOY NO DIPLOMATIC STATUS BUT ARE CONSIDERED AS RESIDENT ALIENS.

5. THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM HAS SET UP DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ON AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL WITH SWITZERLAND. THE RVN EMBASSY NOW HEADQUARTERED IN BERN AND THE RVN REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA ARE DIPLOMATIC AGENCIES AND THEIR PERSONNEL ENJOY FULL DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.

6. FOR THIS REASON, ONE CAN IN NO WAY DRAW ANY COMPARISON BETWEEN THE RVN AGENCIES IN SWITZERLAND AND THE OFFICE OF THE SOCALLED NLF THAT WAS RECENTLY ALLOWED TO COME INTO SIGHT IN THE SWISS CAPITAL.

7. II - THE SELF-PROCLAIMED NLF IN SEVERAL OCCASIONS HAD VAINLY CAMPAIGNED FOR ITS REPRESENTATION IN GENEVA, AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND ORGANIZATIONS. AS A RESULT FOR THIS TIME IT MUST RESORT TO THE HUMANITARIAN CAUSE TO HAVE AN UNRECOGNIZED REPRESENTATION IN GENEVA.

8. THE SO-CALLED NLF WOULD PROBABLY EXPLOIT ITS PRESENCE IN GENEVA FOR POLITICAL PROPAGANDA. IN SUCH A CASE, THE RVN GOVERNMENT EXPECTS THAT THE SWISS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE UN SECRETARIAT WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION.

9. III - ALTHOUGH THE ABOVE-SAID DECISION WAS MADE PURELY ON HUMANITARIAN BASIS AND DID NOT SIGNIFY A RECOGNITION BY THE SWISS GOVERNMENT, IT HOWEVER, CONSTITUTES A WRONG AND REGRETTABLE ATTITUDE, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE COMMUNISTS ARE ESCALATING THE POSTWAR FIGHTING AND BRINGING ABOUT MOURNING AND SUFFERING TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM, IN CONFLICT WITH THE PARIS AGREEMENT OF JAN. 27, 1973 AND THE MOST COMMON HUMANITARIAN PRINCIPLES.

10. THEREFORE THE RVN GOVERNMENT HAS PROTESTED AND WILL CONTINUE TO PROTEST THIS DECISION. END TEXT.

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